

59TH LEGISLATURE—REGULAR SESSION

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—COUNTY
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

S. J. R. No. 4

Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Texas by adding to Section 62 of Article XVI a new subsection to be denominated subsection (c), of said Section 62; authorizing the Legislature to enact laws establishing, subject to the limitations stated, a State-wide System of Retirement, Disability and Death Compensation benefits for the officers and employees of the counties and other political subdivisions of the state, and of the political subdivisions of any county.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 62 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto a subsection (c) which shall read as follows:

“(c) The Texas Legislature is authorized to enact appropriate laws to provide for a System of Retirement, Disability and Death Benefits for all the officers and employees of a county or other political subdivision of the state, or a political subdivision of a county; providing that when the Texas Legislature has passed the necessary enabling legislation pursuant to the Constitutional authorization, then the governing body of the county, or other political subdivision of the state, or political subdivision of the county shall make the determination as to whether a particular county or other political subdivision of the state, or subdivision of the county participates in this System; providing further that such System shall be operated at the expense of the county or other political subdivision of the state or political subdivision of the county electing to participate therein and the officers and employees covered by the System; and providing that the Legislature of the State of Texas shall never make an appropriation to pay the costs of this Retirement, Disability and Death Compensation System.

“The Legislature may provide for a voluntary merger into the System herein authorized by this Constitutional Amendment of any System of Retirement, Disability and Death Compensation Benefits which may now exist or that may hereafter be established under subsection (b) of Section 62 of Article XVI of the Texas Constitution; providing further that the Texas Legislature in the enabling statute will make the determination as to the amount of money that will be contributed by the county or other political subdivision of the state or political subdivision of the county to the State-wide System of Retirement, Disability and Death Benefits, and the Legislature shall further provide that the amount of money contributed by the county or other political subdivision of the state or subdivision of the county shall equal the amount paid for the same purpose from the income of each officer and employee covered by this State-wide System.

“It is the further intention of the Legislature, in submitting this Constitutional Amendment, that the officers and employees of the county or other political subdivision of the state or political subdivision of a county may be included in these systems regardless of whether the county or other political subdivision of the state or political subdivision of the county participates in the Retirement, Disability and Death Benefit System authorized by this Constitutional Amendment, or whether they participate in a System under the provisions of subsection (b) of Section 62 of Article XVI of the Texas Constitution as the same is herein amended.”

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Sec. 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at the General Election in November, 1966, at which all ballots shall have printed thereon:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment authorizing the Texas Legislature to establish a State-wide Cooperative System of Retirement, Disability and Death Benefits for the officials and employees of the various counties or other political subdivisions of the state, or political subdivisions of a county; authorizing the Legislature to provide for a voluntary merger into the system authorized by this Amendment by those officers and employees covered by the provisions of subsection (b) of Section 62 of Article XVI of the Texas Constitution as now existing or may hereafter be established; providing that costs of this System shall be borne by the counties and other political subdivisions of the state and political subdivisions of the county electing to participate therein and the officers and employees covered by the System; and forbidding the Legislature from making any appropriations for the operation of this System."

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment authorizing the Texas Legislature to establish a State-wide Cooperative System of Retirement, Disability and Death Benefits for the officials and employees of the various counties or other political subdivisions of the state, or political subdivisions of a county; authorizing the Legislature to provide for a voluntary merger into the system authorized by this Amendment by those officers and employees covered by the provisions of subsection (b) of Section 62 of Article XVI of the Texas Constitution as now existing or may hereafter be established; providing that costs of this System shall be borne by the counties and other political subdivisions of the state and political subdivisions of the county electing to participate therein and the officers and employees covered by the System; and forbidding the Legislature from making any appropriations for the operation of this System."

If it appears from the returns of said election that a majority of the votes have been cast in favor of such amendment, the same shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Texas.

Sec. 3. The Governor of the State of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have notice of said proposed Amendment and of said election published as required by the Constitution of Texas, and laws of this state.

Passed the Senate on April 27, 1965: Yeas 28, Nays 1; passed the House on May 27, 1965: Yeas 120, Nays 18.
Signed by the Governor June 18, 1965.